EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Thank you for your continued hard work sampling **Cobbetts Pond** this year! Your monitoring group sampled the deep spot **(three or more)** times this year and has done so for many years. As you know, conducting multiple sampling events each year enables DES to more accurately detect water quality changes. Keep up the good work!

We congratulate your group for sampling your pond **once** this summer. However, we encourage your monitoring group to sample **additional** times each summer. Typically, we recommend that monitoring groups sample **three times** per summer (once in **June**, **July**, and **August**). We understand that the number of sampling events you decide to conduct per summer will depend upon volunteer availability, and your monitoring group's goals and funding availability. However, with a limited amount of data it is difficult to determine accurate and representative water quality trends. Since weather patterns and activity in the watershed can change throughout the summer, from year to year, and even from hour to hour during a rain event, it is a good idea to sample the lake/pond at least once per month during the summer.

If you are having difficulty finding volunteers to help sample or to travel to one of the laboratories, please call the VLAP Coordinator and DES will help you work out an arrangement.

We encourage your monitoring group to formally participate in the DES Weed Watchers program, a volunteer program dedicated to monitoring lakes and ponds for the presence of exotic aquatic plants. This program only involves a small amount of time during the summer months. Volunteers survey their waterbody once a month from **May** through **September**. To survey, volunteers slowly boat, or even snorkel, around the perimeter of the waterbody and any islands it may contain. Using the materials provided in the Weed Watcher kit, volunteers look for any species that are suspicious. After a trip or two around the waterbody, volunteers will have a good knowledge of its plant community and will immediately notice even the most subtle changes. If a suspicious plant is found, the volunteers immediately send a specimen to DES for identification. If the plant specimen is an exotic species, a biologist will visit the site to determine the extent of the problem and to formulate a management plan to control the nuisance infestation. Early detection is the key to controlling the spread of exotic plants.

If you would like to help protect your lake or pond from exotic plant infestations, contact Amy Smagula, Exotic Species Program Coordinator, at 271-2248 or visit the Weed Watchers website at www.des.state.nh.us/ wmb/exoticspecies/survey.htm.

OBSERVATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

DEEP SPOT

➢ Chlorophyll-a

Chlorophyll-a, a pigment found in plants, is an indicator of algal abundance. Algae are typically microscopic plants that are naturally found in the lake ecosystem. The measurement of chlorophyll-a in the water gives biologists an estimation of the algal concentration or lake productivity. Table 14 in Appendix A lists the current year chlorophyll-a data.

Figure 1 depicts the historical and current year chlorophyll-a concentration in the water column.

The median summer chlorophyll-a concentration for New Hampshire's lakes and ponds is 4.58 mg/m³.

STATION 1
The current year (the top graph) and historical (the bottom graph) data show that the **2007** chlorophyll-a concentration is ***slightly less than*** the state median and ***slightly greater than*** the similar lake median. For more information on the similar lake median, refer to Appendix D.

STATION 2
The current year (the top graph) and historical (the bottom graph) data show that the **2007** chlorophyll-a concentration is ***greater than*** the state and similar lake medians.

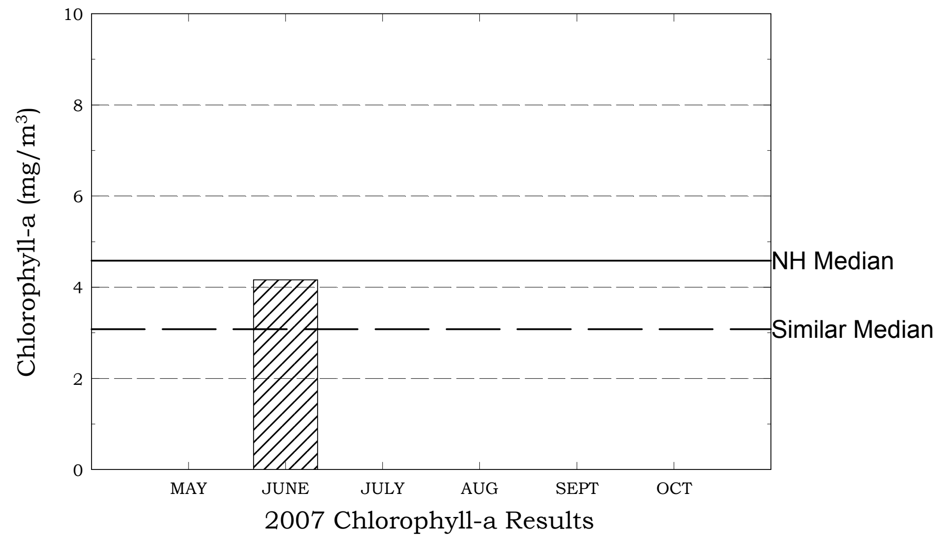
STATIONS 1 AND 2
Overall, visual inspection of the historical data trend line (the bottom graph) shows an ***increasing*** in-lake chlorophyll-a trend since monitoring began. Specifically the mean chlorophyll concentration has ***worsened*** since **1988**. Please keep in mind that additional monitoring events per year will help better determine mean chlorophyll-a concentrations and better depict the corresponding trend.

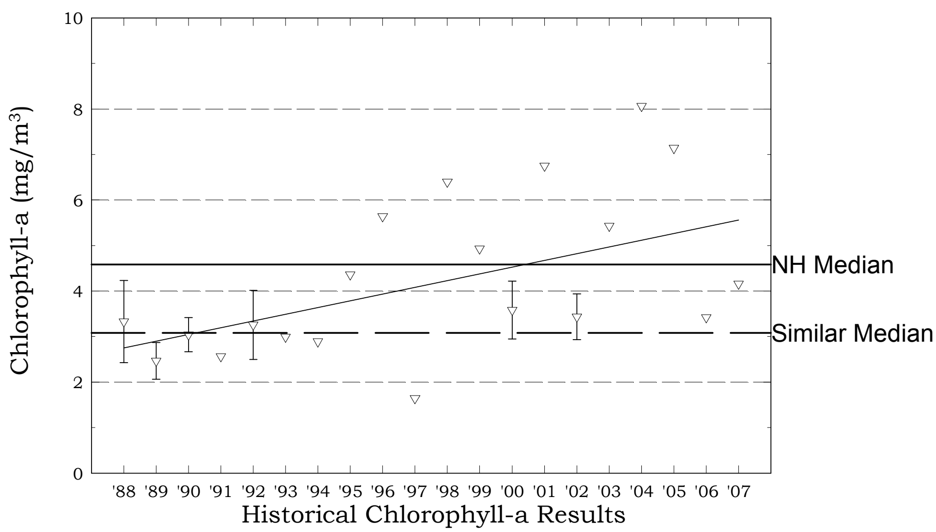
While algae are naturally present in all waterbodies, an excessive or increasing amount of any type is not welcomed. Phosphorus is the nutrient that algae typically depend upon for growth in New Hampshire lakes and ponds. Algal concentrations increase as nonpoint sources of phosphorus from the watershed increase, or as in-lake phosphorus sources increase. Increased Chlorophyll-a concentrations can also affect water clarity, causing Secchi-disk transparency to decrease (worsen) and turbidity to increase (worsen).

Therefore, it is extremely important for volunteer monitors to continually educate all watershed residents about management practices that can be implemented to minimize phosphorus loading to surface waters.

Cobbetts Pond, Stn. 1, Windham

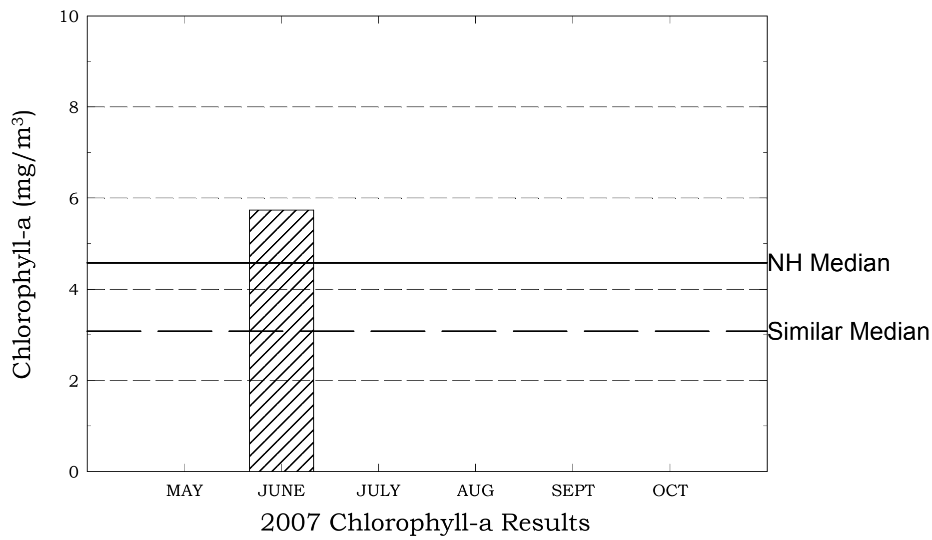
Figure 1. Monthly and Historical Chlorophyll-a Results

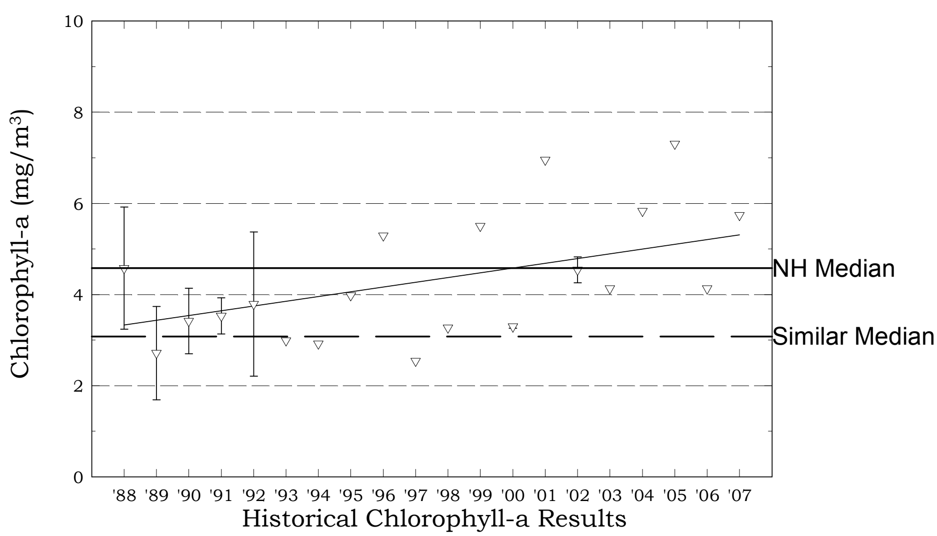




Cobbetts Pond, Stn. 2, Windham

Figure 1. Monthly and Historical Chlorophyll-a Results





➢ Phytoplankton and Cyanobacteria

Tables 1 and 2 list the phytoplankton (algae) and/or cyanobacteria species observed in the pond in **2007**. Specifically, this table lists the three most dominant phytoplankton species observed and their relative dominance in the sample.

Table 1. Station 1: Dominant Phytoplankton/Cyanobacteria (June 2007)

Genus	Species	% Dominance
Cyanophyta	Anabaena	63.7
Pyrophyta	Ceratium	8.6
Bacillariophyta	Synedra/Tabellaria	7.7

Table 2. Station 2: Dominant Phytoplankton/Cyanobacteria (June 2007)

Genus	Species	% Dominance
Cyanophyta	Oscillatoria	34.5
Bacillariophyta	Tabellaria	20.4
Cyanophyta	Anabaena	11.9

Phytoplankton populations undergo a natural succession during the growing season. Please refer to the "Biological Monitoring Parameters" section of this report for a more detailed explanation regarding seasonal plankton succession. Diatoms and golden-brown algae populations are typical in New Hampshire's less productive lakes and ponds.

The cyanobacteria ***Anabaena and Oscillatoria*** were the dominant species observed in the **June** plankton samples. ***These species, if present in large amounts, can be toxic to livestock, wildlife, pets, and humans.*** Please refer to the "Biological Monitoring Parameters" section of this report for a more detailed explanation regarding cyanobacteria.

Also, a cyanobacteria scum was noted in **October** during fall turnover. A sample was collected and returned to the DES Limnology Center for analysis. The cyanobacteria were identified as ***Anabaena*** and toxicity testing was performed. The Limnology Center accepts and analyzes cyanobacteria samples for the presence of microcystin, a liver toxin produced by certain cyanobacteria species. Microcystin test results inidicate that toxin production was ***approximately 0.4 ug/L*** indicating a non-toxic scum. Also, results were below the World Health Organization (WHO) standard for microcystin in drinking water of **1.0 ug/L**. To learn more about cyanobacteria and associated toxin production please refer to the Data Interpretation section of your report.

Cyanobacteria can reach nuisance levels when phosphorus loading from the watershed to surface waters is increased and favorable environmental conditions occur, such as a period of sunny, warm weather.

The presence of cyanobacteria serves as a reminder of the pond's delicate balance. Watershed residents should continue to act proactively to reduce nutrient loading to the pond by eliminating fertilizer use on lawns, keeping the pond shoreline natural, re-vegetating cleared areas within the watershed, and properly maintaining septic systems and roads.

In addition, residents should also observe the pond in September and October during the time of fall turnover (lake mixing) to document any algal blooms that may occur. Cyanobacteria have the ability to regulate their depth in the water column by producing or releasing gas from vesicles. However, occasionally lake mixing can affect their buoyancy and cause them to rise to the surface and bloom. Wind and currents tend to "pile" cyanobacteria into scums that accumulate in one section of the pond. If a fall bloom occurs, please collect a sample in any clean jar or bottle and contact the VLAP Coordinator.

- ## Secchi Disk Transparency

Volunteer monitors use the Secchi disk, a 20 cm disk with alternating black and white quadrants, to measure how far a person can see into the water. Transparency, a measure of water clarity, can be affected by the amount of algae and sediment in the water, as well as the natural color of the water. Table 14 in Appendix A lists the current year transparency data. **The median summer transparency for New Hampshire's lakes and ponds is 3.2 meters.**

Figure 2 depicts the historical and current year transparency ***with and without*** the use of a viewscope.

The current year data (the top graph) includes both the non-viewscope and viewscope readings for **2007**.

STATION 1
The current year (top graph) and historical (bottom graph) ***non-viewscope*** in-lake transparency data show that the **2007** non-viewscope transparency is ***slightly greater than*** the state median and is ***much less than*** the similar lake median. Please refer to Appendix D for more information about the similar lake median.

STATION 2
The current year (top graph) and historical (bottom graph) ***non-viewscope*** in-lake transparency data show that the **2007** non-viewscope transparency is ***slightly less than*** the state median and is ***much less than*** the similar lake median. Please refer to Appendix D for more information about the similar lake median.

STATIONS 1 AND 2
The viewscope in-lake transparency was ***slightlygreater than*** the non-viewscope transparency at both stations on the **June** sampling event. As discussed previously, a comparison of transparency readings taken with and without the use of a viewscope shows that the viewscope typically increases the depth to which the Secchi disk can be seen into the lake, particularly on sunny and windy days. We recommend that your group measure Secchi disk transparency with and without the viewscope on each sampling event.

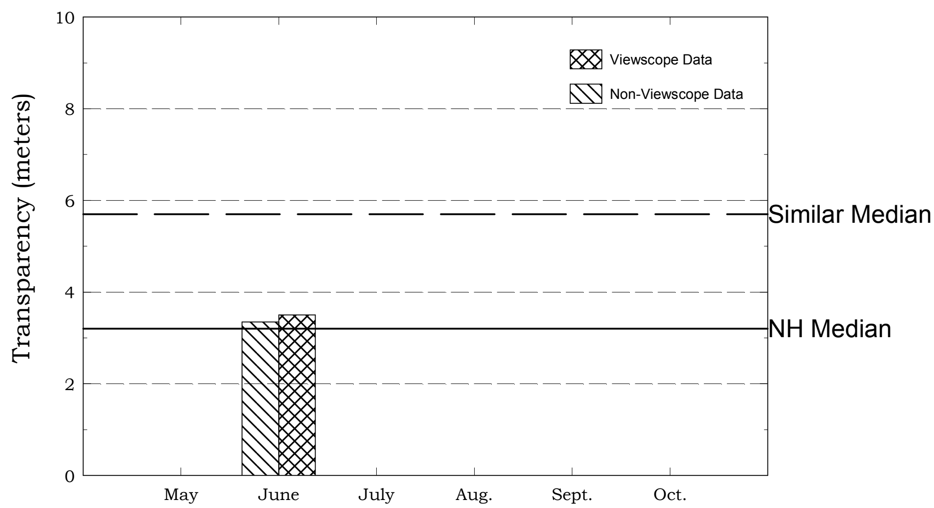
It is important to note that viewscope transparency data are not compared to a New Hampshire median or similar lake median. This is because lake transparency with the use of a viewscope has not been historically measured by DES. In the future, the New Hampshire and similar lake medians for viewscope transparency will be calculated and added to the appropriate graphs.

Visual inspection of the historical data trend lineS (the bottom graph) show a ***decreasing*** trend, meaning that the transparency has ***worsened*** at both stations since monitoring began in **1988.**

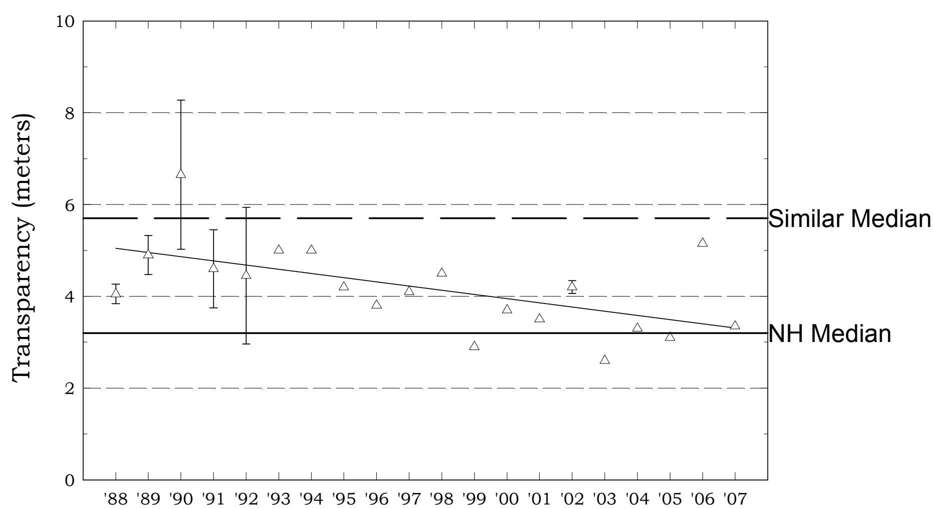
Typically, high intensity rainfall causes sediment-laden stormwater runoff to flow into surface waters, thus increasing turbidity and decreasing clarity. Efforts should continually be made to stabilize stream banks, pond shorelines, disturbed soils within the watershed, and especially dirt roads located immediately adjacent to the edge of tributaries and the pond. Guides to best management practices that can be implemented to reduce, and possibly even eliminate, nonpoint source pollutants, are available from DES upon request.

Cobbetts Pond, Stn. 1, Windham

Figure 2. Monthly and Historical Transparency Results



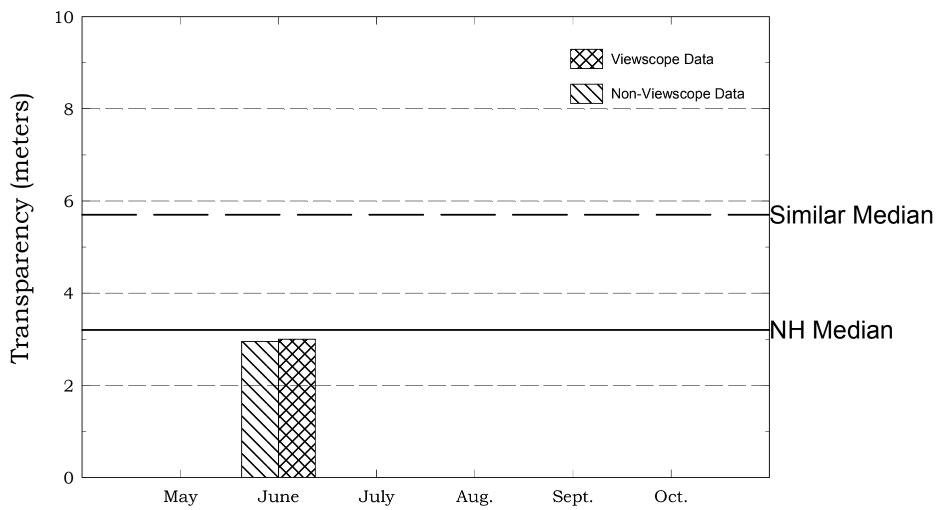
2007 Transparency Viewscope and Non-Viewscope Results



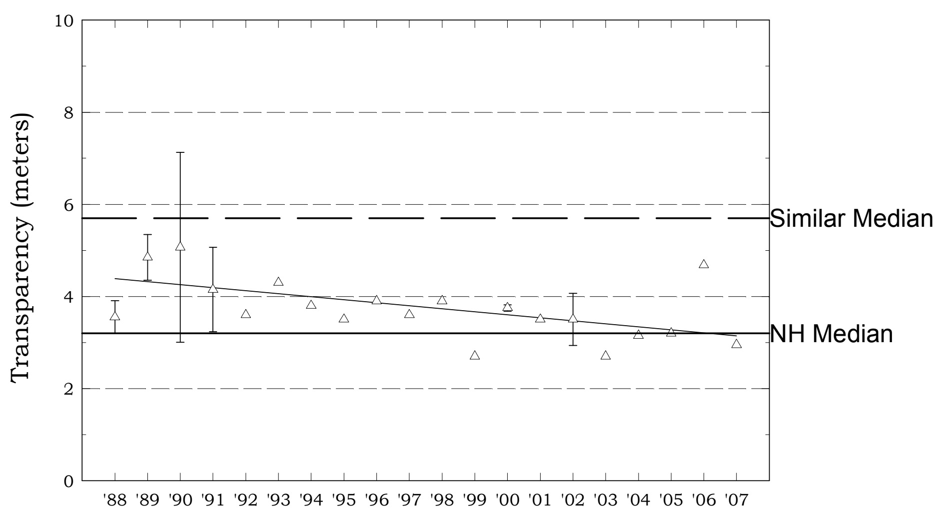
Historical Transparency Non-Viewscope Results

Cobbetts Pond, Stn. 2, Windham

Figure 2. Monthly and Historical Transparency Results



2007 Transparency Viewscope and Non-Viewscope Results



Historical Transparency Non-Viewscope Results

➢ Total Phosphorus

Phosphorus is typically the limiting nutrient for vascular plant and algae growth in New Hampshire's lakes and ponds. Excessive phosphorus in a pond can lead to increased plant and algal growth over time. Table 14 in Appendix A lists the current year total phosphorus data for in-lake and tributary stations. **The median summer total phosphorus concentration in the epilimnion (upper layer) of New Hampshire's lakes and ponds is 12 ug/L. The median summer phosphorus concentration in the hypolimnion (lower layer) is 14 ug/L.**

The graphs in Figure 3 depict the historical amount of epilimnetic (upper layer) and hypolimnetic (lower layer) total phosphorus concentrations; the inset graphs depict current year total phosphorus data.

STATIONS 1 AND 2
The current year (top inset graph) and historical data for the eplimnion show that the **2007** phosphorus concentration is ***greater than*** the state and similar lake medians. Refer to Appendix D for more information about the similar lake median.

The current year (bottom inset graph) and historical data for the hypolimnion (the bottom inset graph) show that the **2007** phosphorus concentration is ***greater than*** the state and similar lake medians.

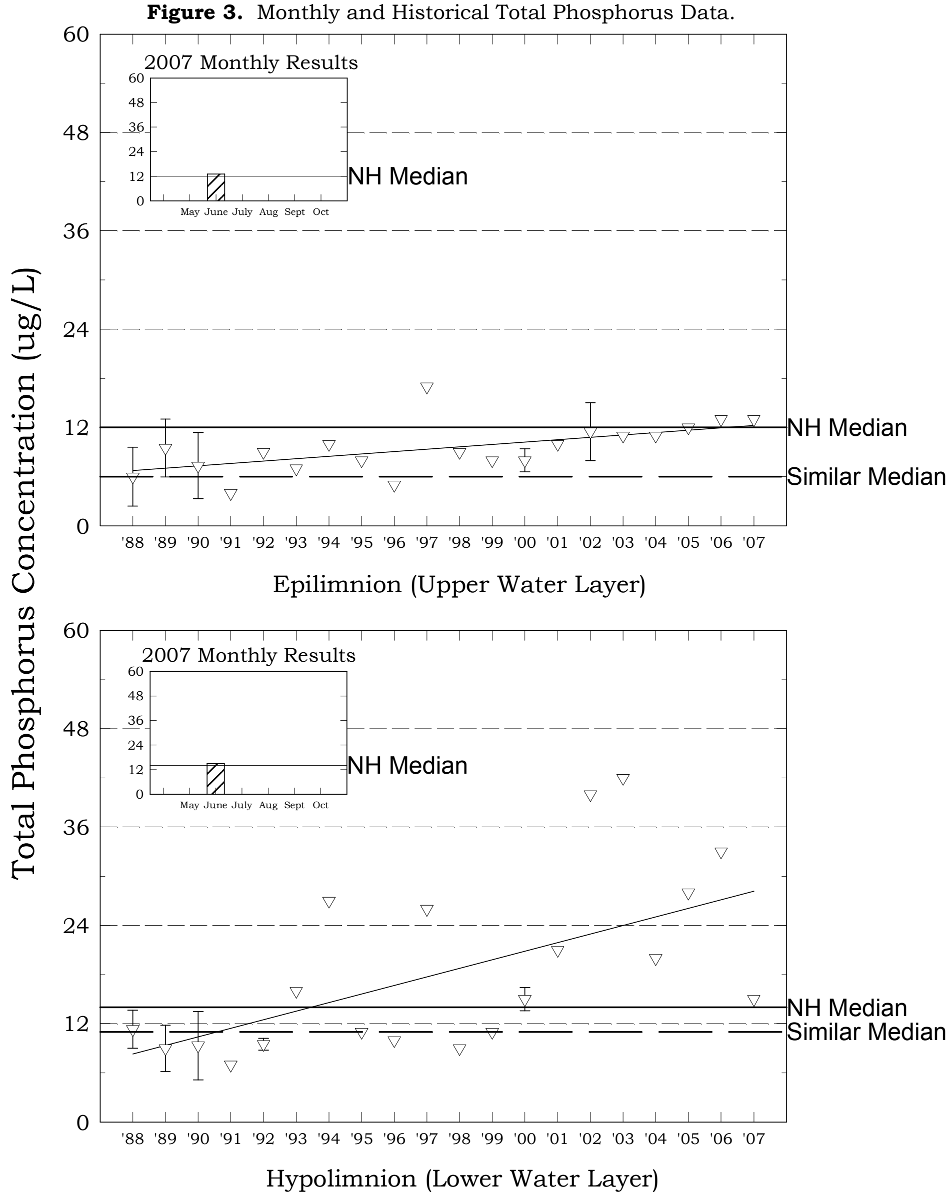
The hypolimnetic (lower layer) turbidity samples were ***slightly elevated*** on the **June** sampling event (**Station 1: 1.89 NTUs and Station 2: 1.86**). This suggests that the pond bottom may have been disturbed by the anchor or by the Kemmerer Bottle while sampling and/or that the pond bottom is covered by an easily disturbed thick organic layer of sediment. When the pond bottom is disturbed, phosphorus rich sediment is released into the water column. When collecting the hypolimnion sample, make sure that there is no sediment in the Kemmerer Bottle before filling the sample bottles.

Overall, visual inspection of the historical data trend line for the epilimnion and hypolimnion shows an ***increasing*** phosphorus trend since monitoring began. Specifically the mean annual epilimnetic and hypolimnetic phosphorus concentration has ***worsened*** since monitoring began in **1988**. Please keep in mind that additional monitoring events per year will help better determine mean chlorophyll-a concentrations and better depict the corresponding trend.

One of the most important approaches to reducing phosphorus loading to a waterbody is to continually educate watershed residents about the watershed sources of phosphorus and how excessive phosphorus loading can negatively affect the ecology and the recreational, economical, and ecological value of lakes and ponds.

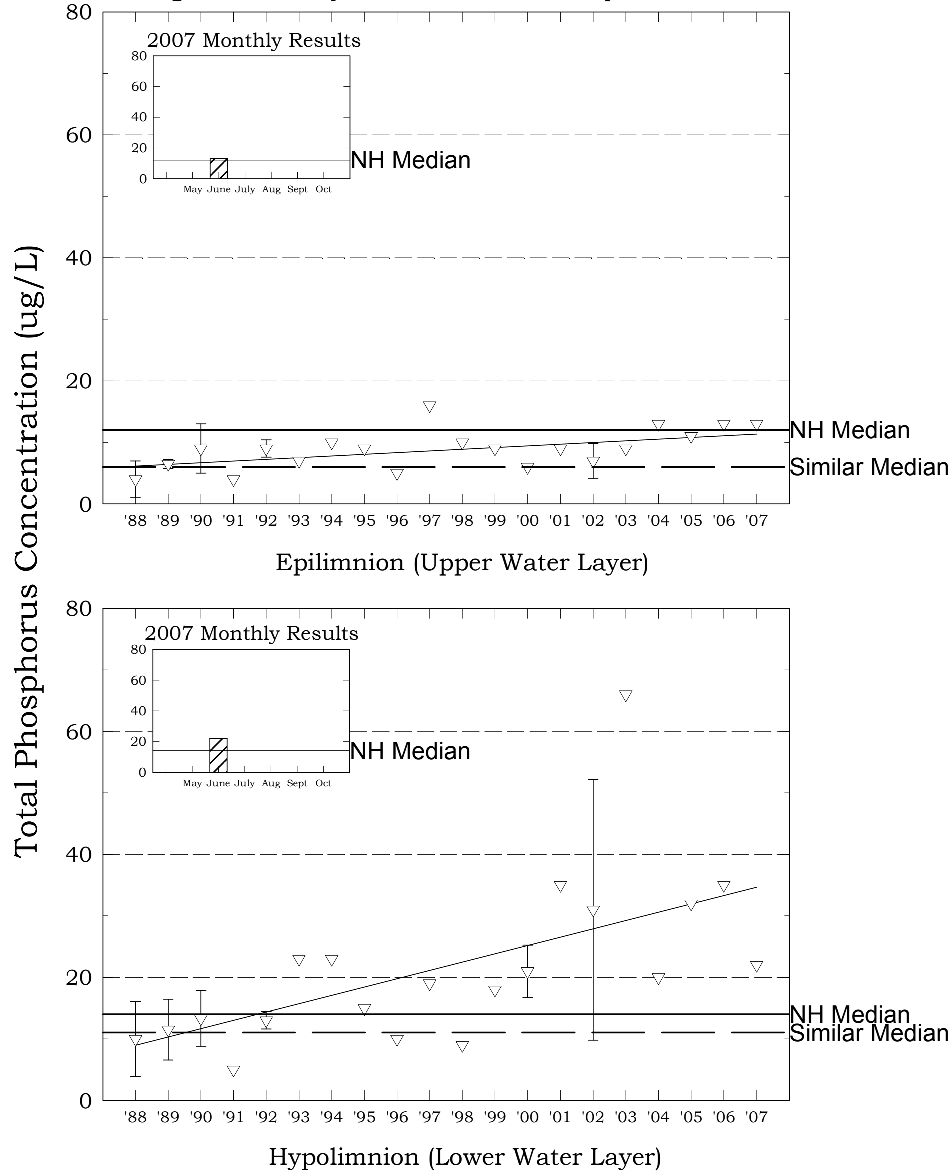
Cobbetts Pond, Stn. 1, Windham

Figure 3. Monthly and Historical Total Phosphorus Data.



Cobbetts Pond, Stn. 2, Windham

Figure 3. Monthly and Historical Total Phosphorus Data.



➢ pH

Table 14 in Appendix A presents the current year pH data for the in-lake stations.

pH is measured on a logarithmic scale of 0 (acidic) to 14 (basic). pH is important to the survival and reproduction of fish and other aquatic life. A pH below 6.0 typically limits the growth and reproduction of fish. A pH between 6.0 and 7.0 is ideal for fish. The median pH value for the epilimnion (upper layer) in New Hampshire's lakes and ponds is **6.6**, which indicates that the state surface waters are slightly acidic. For a more detailed explanation regarding pH, please refer to the "Chemical Monitoring Parameters" section of this report.

STATIONS 1 AND 2
The pH at the deep spot this year ranged from **7.3 to 7.34** in the epilimnion and from **6.62 to 6.67** in the hypolimnion, which means that the water is ***slightly basic***.

It is important to point out that the hypolimnetic (lower layer) pH was ***lower (more acidic)*** than in the epilimnion (upper layer). This increase in acidity near the bottom is likely due to the decomposition of organic matter and the release of acidic by-products into the water column.

➢ Acid Neutralizing Capacity (ANC)

Table 14 in Appendix A presents the current year epilimnetic ANC for the deep spot.

Buffering capacity (ANC) describes the ability of a solution to resist changes in pH by neutralizing the acidic input. The median ANC value for New Hampshire's lakes and ponds is **4.9 mg/L**, which indicates that many lakes and ponds in the state are at least "moderately vulnerable" to acidic inputs. For a more detailed explanation about ANC, please refer to the "Chemical Monitoring Parameters" section of this report.

STATIONS 1 AND 2
The acid neutralizing capacity (ANC) of the epilimnion (upper layer) ranged from **19.3 mg/L to 20.2 mg/L**. This indicates that the pond is has a ***low vulnerability*** to acidic inputs.

➢ Conductivity

Table 14 in Appendix A presents the current conductivity data for in-lake stations.

Conductivity is the numerical expression of the ability of water to carry an electric current, which is determined by the number of negatively charged ions from metals, salts, and minerals in the water column. The median conductivity value for New Hampshire's lakes and ponds is **40.0 uMhos/cm**. For a more detailed explanation, please refer to the "Chemical Monitoring Parameters" section of this report.

STATIONS 1 AND 2

The **2007** conductivity results for the deep spot were ***lower than*** has been measured **during the past few years**. It is likely that the lack of rainfall during the **2007** sampling season reduced watershed runoff to the pond. Typically, rain events and snow melt cause potentially pollutant laden watershed runoff to reach tributaries and ultimately the pond leading to elevated conductivity levels.

However, conductivity remains elevated in the pond. Typically, conductivity levels greater than 100 uMhos/cm indicate the influence of pollutant sourced associated with human activities. These sources include septic system leachate, agricultural runoff, and road runoff which contains road salt during the spring snow-melt.

We recommend that your monitoring group conduct a shoreline conductivity survey of the pond and tributaries with ***elevated*** conductivity to help identify the sources of conductivity.

To learn how to conduct a shoreline or tributary conductivity survey, please refer to the 2004 special topic article, which is posted on the VLAP website at http://www.des.nh.gov/wmb/vlap/2004/ documents/Appendix_D.pdf or contact the VLAP Coordinator.

It is possible that de-icing materials applied to nearby roadways during the winter months may be influencing the conductivity in the pond. In New Hampshire, the most commonly used de-icing material is salt (sodium chloride).

Therefore, we recommend that the **epilimnion** (upper layer) be sampled for chloride next year. This additional sampling may help us identify what areas of the watershed are contributing to the increasing in-lake conductivity.

Please note that the DES Limnology Center in Concord will be able to conduct chloride analyses, free of charge, beginning in 2008. As a reminder, it is best to conduct chloride sampling in the spring as the snow is melting and during rain events.

➢ Dissolved Oxygen and Temperature

Table 9 in Appendix A depicts the dissolved oxygen/temperature profile(s) collected during **2007**.

The presence of sufficient amounts of dissolved oxygen in the water column is vital to fish and amphibians and also to bottom-dwelling organisms. Please refer to the "Chemical Monitoring Parameters" section of this report for a more detailed explanation.

STATIONS 1 AND 2
The dissolved oxygen concentration was ***lower in the hypolimnion (lower layer) than in the epilimnion (upper layer)*** at the deep spot on the **June** sampling event. As stratified ponds age, and as the summer progresses, oxygen typically becomes ***depleted*** in the hypolimnion by the process of decomposition. Specifically, the reduction of hypolimnetic oxygen is primarily a result of biological organisms using oxygen to break down organic matter, both in the water column and particularly at the bottom of the pond where the water meets the sediment. When hypolimnetic oxygen concentration is depleted to less than 1 mg/L, **as it was on the annual biologist visit this year and on many previous annual visits,** the phosphorus that is normally bound up in the sediment may be re-released into the water column, a process referred to as ***internal phosphorus loading***.

The ***low*** hypolimnetic oxygen level is a sign of the pond's ***aging*** and ***declining*** health. This year the DES biologist collected the dissolved oxygen profiles in **June.** We recommend that the annual biologist visit for the **2008** sampling year be scheduled during **August** so that we can determine if oxygen is depleted in the hypolimnion ***later*** in the sampling year.

STATION 2
The dissolved oxygen concentration was greater than **100 percent** saturation between **0.1** and **6.0** meters at the deep spot on the **June** sampling event. Wave action from wind can also dissolve atmospheric oxygen into the upper layers of the water column. Layers of algae can also increase the dissolved oxygen in the water column, since oxygen is a by-product of photosynthesis. Considering that the depth to which sunlight could penetrate into the water column was approximately **3.0** meters on this sampling event, as shown by the Secchi disk transparency depth, and that the metalimnion, the layer of rapid decrease in water temperature and increase in water density where algae typically congregate, was located between approximately **4.0** and **7.0** meters, we suspect that an abundance of algae in the metalimnion caused the oxygen super-saturation.

➢ Turbidity

Table 14 in Appendix A presents the current year data for in-lake turbidity.

Turbidity in the water is caused by suspended matter, such as clay, silt, and algae. Water clarity is strongly influenced by turbidity. Please refer to the "Other Monitoring Parameters" section of this report for a more detailed explanation.

STATIONS 1 AND 2
the turbidity of the epilimnion (upper layer) and metalimnion (middle layer)

samples was ***elevated*** (**Epilimnion: 1.46 and 1.27 NTUs**) (**Metalimnion: 2.89 and 2.46 NTUs**) on the **June** sampling event. This suggests that a layer of algae may have been present at this location. Algae are often found in the epilimnion and metalimnion of ponds due to the differences in density between the epilimnion and the hypolimnion and the resulting abundance of food in that layer.

As discussed previously, the hypolimnetic (lower layer) turbidity was ***elevated*** (**Station 1: 1.89 and Station 2: 1.86 NTUs**) on the **June** sampling event. In addition, the hypolimnetic turbidity has been elevated on many sampling events during previous sampling years. This suggests that the pond bottom may have been disturbed by the anchor or by the Kemmerer Bottle while sampling and/or that the lake bottom is covered by an easily disturbed thick organic layer of sediment. When the pond bottom is disturbed, phosphorus rich sediment is released into the water column. When collecting the hypolimnion sample, make sure that there is no sediment in the Kemmerer Bottle before filling the sample bottles.

TRIBUTARY SAMPLING

➢ Total Phosphorus

Table 14 in Appendix A presents the current year total phosphorus data for tributary stations. Please refer to the "Chemical Monitoring Parameters" section of the report for a detailed explanation of total phosphorus.

The **Dinsmore Brook** phosphorus concentration on the **June** sampling event was ***elevated* (36.0 ug/L),** however, the turbidity was ***not elevated* (1.18 NTUs).** This was the highest phosphorus concentration recorded in the brook since monitoring began. Rain events prior to sampling typically carry phosphorus laden watershed runoff to tributaries. Phosphorus sources in the watershed can include agricultural runoff, failing or marginal septic systems, stormwater runoff, road runoff, and watershed development.

The phosphorus concentration in the **Community Beach** sample on the **June** sampling event was ***elevated* (41.0 ug/L),** and the turbidity was also ***elevated* (14.2 NTUs).** Elevated turbidity levels are most often a result of sediment and/or organic material present in the sample. These materials typically contain phosphorus and when present in elevated amounts can contribute to elevated tributary phosphorus levels.

➢ pH

Table 14 in Appendix A presents the current year pH data for the tributary stations. Please refer to the "Chemical Monitoring Parameters" section of this report for a more detailed explanation of pH.

The pH of the tributary station(s) ranged from **6.67 to 7.01 (> 6)** and is sufficient to support aquatic life.

The pH of the **Bella Vista, Community Beach and Town Beach stations** appears to be slightly basic or alkaline (pH > 7) and is consistent with that measured for the epilimnion (upper water layer) of the pond.

➢ Conductivity

Table 14 in Appendix A presents the current conductivity data for the tributary stations. Please refer to the "Chemical Monitoring Parameters" section of the report for a more detailed explanation of conductivity.

Overall, the **2007** conductivity levels were ***much lower*** in the tributaries, however remain elevated. Please keep in mind that this observation is based on only one monitoring event. Additional monitoring events per year will help to better estimate tributary conductivity trends.

Therefore, we recommend that your monitoring group conduct a shoreline conductivity survey of the pond and tributaries with ***elevated*** conductivity to help identify the sources of conductivity.

To learn how to conduct a shoreline or tributary conductivity survey, please refer to the 2004 special topic article, which is posted on the VLAP website at http://www.des.nh.gov/wmb/vlap/2004/ documents/Appendix_D.pdf or contact the VLAP Coordinator.

➢ Turbidity

Table 14 in Appendix A presents the current year turbidity data for the tributary stations. Please refer to the "Other Monitoring Parameters" section of the report for a more detailed explanation of turbidity.

Overall, tributary turbidity levels ***increased slightly*** during the **2007** sampling season.

➢ Bacteria (*E. coli*)

Table 14 in Appendix A lists the current year data for bacteria *(E.coli*) testing. *E. coli* is a normal bacterium found in the large intestine of humans and other warm-blooded animals. *E.coli* is used as an indicator organism because it is easily cultured and its presence in the water, in defined amounts, indicates that sewage **may** be present. If sewage is present in the water, potentially harmful disease-causing organisms **may** also be present. Please refer to the "Other Monitoring Parameters" section of the report for a more detailed explanation.

The **Community Beach** *E. coli* concentration was ***elevated*** on the **June** sampling event. Specifically, the result of **610** counts per 100 mL ***was much greater than*** the state standard of 88 counts per 100 mL for designated public beaches.

We recommend that your group continue *E.coli* sampling at this station next year. If the results continue to be ***elevated***, we will recommend that your group conduct a series of tests on a weekend during heavy beach use and also immediately after a rain event. This additional sampling may help us determine the source of the bacteria.

For a detailed explanation on how to conduct rain event sampling and stream surveys, please refer to the 2002 VLAP Annual Report special topic article, which is posted on the VLAP website at http://www.des.nh.gov/wmb/vlap/2002/documents/Appndxd_monitoring.pdf, or contact the VLAP Coordinator.

The **Castleton Culvert** *E. coli* concentration was ***elevated*** on the **June** sampling event. However, the **280** counts per 100 mL concentration ***was not***

greater than the state standard of 406 counts per 100 mL for recreational waters that are not designated public beaches.

If you are concerned about *E. coli* levels at this station, your monitoring group should conduct rain event sampling and bracket sampling in this area to determine the bacteria sources.

For a detailed explanation on how to conduct rain event sampling and stream surveys, please refer to the 2002 VLAP Annual Report special topic article, which is posted on the VLAP website at http://www.des.nh.gov/wmb/vlap/2002/documents/Appndxd_monitoring.pdf, or contact the VLAP Coordinator.

➢ Chlorides

Table 14 in Appendix A lists the current year data for chloride sampling. The chloride ion (Cl^-) is found naturally in some surface waters and groundwaters and in high concentrations in seawater. Research has shown that elevated chloride levels can be toxic to freshwater aquatic life. In order to protect freshwater aquatic life in New Hampshire, the state has adopted **acute and chronic** chloride criteria of **860 and 230 mg/L** respectively. The chloride content in New Hampshire lakes is naturally low, generally less than 2 mg/L in surface waters located in remote areas away from habitation. Higher values are generally associated with salted highways and, to a lesser extent, with septic inputs. Please refer to the “Chemical Monitoring Parameters” section of this report for a more detailed explanation.

Chloride sampling was **not** conducted during **2007.**

DATA QUALITY ASSURANCE AND CONTROL

Annual Assessment Audit

Annual Assessment Audit:
During the annual visit to your pond, the biologist conducted a sampling procedures assessment audit for your monitoring group. Specifically, the biologist observed the performance of your monitoring group while sampling and filled-out an assessment audit sheet to document the volunteer monitors' ability to follow the proper field sampling procedures, as outlined in the VLAP Monitor's Field Manual. This assessment is used to identify any aspects of sample collection in which volunteer monitors failed to follow proper procedures, and also provides an opportunity for the biologist to retrain the volunteer monitors as necessary. This will ultimately ensure that the samples volunteer monitors collect are truly representative of actual lake and tributary conditions.

Overall, your monitoring group did an ***excellent*** job collecting deep spot samples on the annual biologist visit this year! Specifically, the members of your monitoring group followed the proper field sampling procedures and there was no need for the biologist to provide additional training. Keep up the good work!

USEFUL RESOURCES

Acid Deposition Impacting New Hampshire's Ecosystems, DES fact sheet ARD-32, (603) 271-2975 or www.des.nh.gov/factsheets/ard/ard-32.htm.

Best Management Practices to Control Nonpoint Source Pollution: A Guide for Citizens and Town Officials, DES Booklet WD-03-42, (603) 271-2975.

Canada Geese Facts and Management Options, DES fact sheet BB-53, (603) 271-2975 or www.des.nh.gov/factsheets/bb/bb-53.htm.

Cyanobacteria in New Hampshire Waters Potential Dangers of Blue-Green Algae Blooms, DES fact sheet WMB-10, (603) 271-2975 or www.des.nh.gov/factsheets/wmb/wmb-10.htm.

Erosion Control for Construction in the Protected Shoreland Buffer Zone, DES fact sheet WD-SP-1, (603) 271-2975 or www.des.nh.gov/factsheets/sp/sp-1.htm.

Freshwater Jellyfish In New Hampshire, DES fact sheet WD-BB-5, (603) 271-2975 or www.des.nh.gov/factsheets/bb/bb-51/htm.

Impacts of Development Upon Stormwater Runoff, DES fact sheet WD-WQE-7, (603) 271-2975 or www.des.nh.gov/factsheets/wqe/wqe-7.htm.

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